

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker and Justin Campbell; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors: Conservation Commissioner Bradley Materick; Severine Aster

At 5:33 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Rich Baker

Changes or additions to the agenda: Dog complaint, winter sand

Public Comment:

Minutes: Approved the minutes of the March 7 Selectboard meeting and Town Meeting.

Winter sand: Bobbi received a request from a resident to change the wording in the town report next year because it suggests that there is a sand pile outside the gate, but that pile freezes. The Board will consider changes.

Martin Covered Bridge: Brad explained that the Conservation Commission is working on a management plan for the covered bridge park. They are asking for a moratorium on brush hogging/haying just for this year so that they can assess some of the features and species in the park. This would not include the mowing areas. Justin will get in touch with Tim Maclay to see if he could do without the hay this year.

Statewide Hazard Mitigation Plan: The Board reviewed and discussed the questions that were asked by the State. They received one response via email, from Drew McNaughton. Rich will draft a response to the State.

Planning Commission Appointments: Michelle McCormick and Severine Aster have volunteered. Severine attended the meeting to discuss their experience and interests. The Board appointed Severine for 1 year, Michelle for 2 years, and reappointed Asher Barnum for 3 years, to stagger the terms.

Healey Agreement: In 1996 the Town and Jeri and Sylvia Healey signed an agreement for locating the repeater station on the Healey property, and the Town pays \$250 per year for electricity. The Board voted to increase the payment to \$300 this year and \$350 next year, at the recommendation of the Fire Department. Bobbi will send a new agreement to Mrs. Healey.

Emergency Tree Work: The Selectboard approved a contract renewal with Mike Baril for tree removal during emergencies.

Green Burials: Sexton Joe Mangan has asked surveyor Lisa Ginett to draw up a plot plan for the new green burial area in Eaton Cemetery. The Board approved the plan.

Old Schoolhouse Common: The Board reviewed the estimate from Country Floors for new

flooring in the Old Schoolhouse. They will ask Chris Martin to come to a meeting to discuss the options for materials. The floors will be paid for with ARPA money.

Picnic Shelter: The Board discussed and approved the contract with TimberHomes Vermont.

Meeting Room: The Board approved having an Ethernet connection in the meeting room, at a cost of \$974. They approved up to \$800 for room dividers.

Website: The Town has been notified that the cost of our website is going to increase from \$660 to \$2,500 because the company has been sold. The company has agreed to let us have the existing price until December 31, and the Town will need to find a new website before the end of the year, to avoid the price increase.

Email Accounts: Bobbi will discontinue the ARPA email account and create one for the Stranahan Stewardship Committee.

Dog Complaint: The Town has received another complaint about the Molteni dogs, this time from Stephanie Ducharme. She is concerned that they will chase her horse. Bobbi will have the Animal Control Officer contact them.

Curb Cut: The Town received an application from Alexander Lundberg for a curb cut but it looks like the driveway location may be on the neighbor's property. The Board won't approve the curb cut unless the neighbor grants an easement, or a survey is completed and shows that the driveway is completely on the Lundberg property.

Building Maintenance: The Board discussed the maintenance position. There is one person interested in the job.

Upper Depot Bridge: Justin and Rich met with representatives of VTrans to discuss the proposed repairs. Justin will clarify with the low bidder to see if they are going to repair all of the beams. Rich moved to approve the low bidder provided that the bid includes repairing all of the beams. Justin seconded – all in favor.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and approved reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the March 21, 2023 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
